Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Global Status Report on Road Safety, launched by the World Health Organization (WHO) in December 2018, found that road traffic injuries are now the leading killer of people aged 5-29; and

WHEREAS, more than half of all road traffic deaths are among vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, cyclists, and motorcyclists; and

WHEREAS, regarding these vulnerable road users, there is a higher proportion that die in low-income, developing countries, compared to those in higher-income countries; and

WHEREAS, every year, millions of road victims are added to the current toll of over 50 million killed and hundreds of millions injured since the recording of road deaths 125 years ago; and

WHEREAS, every year, the objectives of World Day of Remembrance are to provide a platform for road traffic victims and their families to: Remember all people killed and seriously injured on the roads, acknowledge the crucial work of the emergency services, draw attention to the generally trivial legal response to culpable road deaths and injuries and advocate for an appropriately serious response, advocate for better support for road traffic victims and their families, and promote evidence-based actions to prevent and eventually stop further road traffic deaths and injuries; and

WHEREAS, a spotlight is placed on finding justice for victims and their families. When law enforcement, thorough investigation, and criminal prosecutions are properly and fairly carried out, it contributes to the prevention of similar tragedies from occurring again.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, do hereby proclaim **November 15, 2026,** as **World Day of Remembrance for Road Traffic Victims**, and encourage everyone in Rockville to acknowledge the victims of road traffic incidents and to take safety precautions when driving on or crossing roads.

Monique Ashton, Mayor

Kate Fulton, Councilmember

Izola (Zola) Shaw, Councilmember

Barry Jackson, Councilmember

Marissa Valeri, Councilmember

David Myles, Councilmember

Adam Van Grack Councilmember

November 2, 2026